



PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 046124-5025

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Yukio KATO <i>et al.</i>	)	
	)	
U.S. Application No.: 09/555,342	)	Group Art Unit: 1642
	)	
Filed: May 26, 2000	)	Examiner: Minh-Tam Davis
	)	
	)	
For: <b>HUMAN FETUS CHONDROCYTE –</b>	)	
<b>DERIVED GENE</b>	)	

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to the continued examination of the above-identified application on the merits, please  
amend the application, without prejudice, as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 4 of this paper.